

# In-Fur-Nation

## And the ConFurence Chronicle

Volume 1 Number 1

All The News We Get, We Print!

November, 1991

Here, we hope, is just what you've been asking for! In-Fur-Nation is a furry marquee board, an anthropomorphic clearing-house, a reach-out-and-touch-someone place for the funny animal fan. Expanding beyond the ConFurence Progress Reports, In-Fur-Nation will keep you informed of what fur fan and fur pro have been up to. Or will be up to. Moves, births, marriages, publishings, films, sales; all the things the furry fan wants to be kept up to date on. So where do we get all this? YOU! Remember, all the news we get, we print! We want blurbs, short bits, clippings, and personal reports on events, things, and stuff in the furry world. Remember—that's events. Not opinions, not reviews, not rumors, we want the facts, ma'am. And we will print them as we get them—*Verbatim*. That is our service to you, the furry fan. And the best part is: You get it all *free!* That's right, just for being on the ConFurence mailing list you receive four quarterly installments of In-Fur-Nation, along with the ConFurence Progress Reports, absolutely gratis. Of course, if you'd like to help with the creation and mailing of In-Fur-Nation, well pilgrim, there's another reason for you to buy your ConFurence attending or supporting membership right away (plug plug!). More on that inna sec, but first, here now the newts:

Anthropomorphic SF artist Larry Dixon and his wife, SF author and big-name filker Mercedes Lackey, have moved into the famous, spacious Big Dome House, a wooden historic site in Claremore, Oklahoma. More information can be obtained through Mercedes' fan Club, *Queen's Own*, at P.O. Box 43143, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

Deal Whitley, creator of *High Orbit* (from *Albedo*) and *Oppernockityoons* is alive and well and living in Colonia, New Jersey. Both Deal Whitley and Ken Sample are currently accepting commission work; they may be reached for price sheets at 24 Alastair Place, Colonia, NJ 07067.

*Fern Gully*, a new animated feature from Kroyer Company, is scheduled for release in April of 1992. This ecologically-themed film concerns the adventures of a teenage boy among the animals and faire folk in the wilds of northern Australia.

*Beauty and the Beast*, Walt Disney Pictures' 30th animated feature, will be released nation-wide this month. The Beast was animated by Glen Keene, the key animator of Ariel in *The Little Mermaid* and Marahute the Eagle in *The Rescuers Down Under*. The film also features new songs by the Oscar-Winning team of Ashman and Menken (*The Little Mermaid*).

A group of anthropomorphic creators and other well-known comics folk will be travelling to France late next January, Angouleme, southwest of Paris, to be precise, for an international comics festival. This four-day event attracts more than 100,000 comics fans and creators from around the world, and this is a great opportunity for some of our favorite anthropomorphic and small-press comics to pick up valuable new markets overseas! The folks attending include MU Press folks Ed and Diana Vick, *Red Shetland* co-creator Jim Great, *Yarf!* editor Jeff Ferris, *Rhudipper* writer Dwight Decker, *Ermel Felnua* creator Steve Gallacci, *Desert Peach* writer/artist Donna Barr, and long-time comic artists Monika Livingston, Roberta Gregory and Colin Upton.

A move is underway to organize a north-eastern US furry convention, currently referred to as *ConFurence-East*. This is so far planned to be a weekend event sometime next March, and will be held somewhere in the Philadelphia area. For more information, contact the folks at Furtherance care of Images Rune, 200 Dupont Street, Philadelphia, PA 19127-1208.

Meanwhile, a different move is going on down Florida way to organize a south-eastern US furry convention, called *Trans-Furence*. No date or precise location has been set, but interested parties can contact Wolf or Squirrel in the Tampa area. More information will be here as we get it.



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Speaking of which, the joint SoCal/Florida furry fandom suites to be presented at MagicCon/WorldCon in Orlando (Labor Day weekend, 1992) have been declared TransFurence 0 and ConFurence 3.5. Currently planned to operate all day during the convention, the furry suites will feature videos, art displays, art for sale, and lots of other goodies.

Disney Comics, formerly the home of *TaleSpin*, *Roger Rabbit*, *Mickey Mouse* and many other titles known to anthropomorphic fans, has ceased publication of all but four titles: *Disney Adventures* (comprising several Disney Afternoon tie-in titles), *Donald Duck*, *Uncle Scrooge*, and *Walt Disney's Comics & Stories*.

The Walt Disney Company and Henson & Associates have collaborated on several new Muppet tie-in attractions at the Disney/MGM Studio Tour at Walt Disney World in Florida, including the *MuppetVision 3D* Movie and a live stage show.

Jim Lomax has sold a new miniseries, *Cat's Eye Agency*, to Rip-Off Press. The three-issue premiere, featuring several anthropomorphic characters, is drawn by Darren Frydendall. Roughs of the first issue will be available for viewing at ConFurence Three.

A new Furry dimension has come to our attention. Computer networking is becoming popular, with bulletin boards (BBS's) allowing people to communicate via electronic mail all over the world. So, what's next? Well, we have seen the future, and it is **FurryMUCK!** A *MUCK* is a type of interactive text-based adventure game. Players have accounts on Unix computer systems which are linked through Internet, a world-wide data communications network. This includes students and people who work at educational institutions or in the computer industry. *FurryMUCK* is a Virtual Reality, where Furry types of every description and origin live together and relate with each other in real time. It's a place to meet interesting people and make friends. If you think you'd like to explore this unique experience, don't miss the *FurryMUCK* SIG at ConFurence 3. If you have access to Internet, and would like more information about *FurryMUCK*, please contact us at ConFurence.

**Tigerwing Press** is a clearinghouse for art prints, T-Shirts, calendars, and other stuff by artists like Terrie Smith and Lia Graf. For a list of items, contact Tigerwing Press c/o Lia Graf, 6250 Holabird St #1, San Diego, CA 92120.



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## ConFurence Progress Report #2

### Hi! (*Greetingsus Mostbigasi*)

Once again we're ahead of this time last year in terms of membership. Once again we're drawing new and interesting well-known types in to come and join our big furry party. Once again we're receiving memberships and inquiries from all over the country and all over the world. Once again, it's time for another ConFurence Progress Report...

### Our Guests (*Specialustus Guestii*)

We've introduced you to our special guests of honor, Chuck Melville (*Champion of Katarra* and *The Furkindred*), Dave Garcia (*Panda Kahn* and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Adventures*), and Taral Wayne (Hugo-nominated illustrator). And we've told you about some of the other well-known people to be joining us. Well we're proud to add another name to that list: Jynn Magon. Jynn is the talented writer and producer from Walt Disney Television Animation who was a guiding force behind *The Gummibears* and *TailSpin*, as well as new Disney projects like *Goof Troop*. Mr. Magon has joined a line-up of guests that includes Juan Alfonso, Kjartan Arnórsson, Dan Flahive, Lia Graf, Scudder Kidwell, Steve Martin, Noah Miller, Terrie Smith, Tom Verré, and Mel White!

### We're Sorry to Miss... (*Guestii Noshowum*)

Due to their attendance at the Angouleme Comics Festival at the end of January, several of our previous guests will not be able to join us at ConFurence Three. (See the section regarding the Angouleme festival in the news section, above, for a list of names.) We will miss their company, but we wish them the best of luck in their international endeavors!

### Our Hotel (*Hotelata Anaheimii*)

Our hotel has changed! Itself, that is. No, it's still in the same place as last year, but it has changed its name following the opening of a second Holiday Inn to the north of Disneyland. What was the Holiday Inn Anaheim Across From Disneyland is now the Holiday Inn Maingate. Remember that when calling information or using a taxi— You want the Holiday Inn Maingate, not the Holiday Inn

Center. More important stuff: If you call the hotel directly for reservation information, make sure to call before 5:00 PM Pacific Standard Time, when the special events staff (the folks who know what's going on) are there to serve you. To speed things up, give them our Special Event Number: CON0123. That way they can quickly reference ConFurence and help you with your questions. And remember, single and double rooms are yours for only \$71.00 per night, and larger rooms are available as well. If the Holiday Inn does fill up, there are nearly one-dozen hotels and motels within easy walking distance of ConFurence. Among the closest are:

Zaby's Motor Inn (next door)— (714) 635-4411  
Travelodge Aloha (across Katella)— (714) 774-8710  
Candy Cane Inn (kitty-corner)— (714) 774-5284

### Disneyland Tickets (*Discountus Mikimousi*)

Remember, ConFurence has opted to purchase discount tickets to the Magic Kingdom of Disneyland, just for ConFurence members, but we need a minimum of one-hundred tickets sold in order to get the discount rate. If you are interested in discount tickets, please drop us a line and let us know how many you'd be likely to purchase.

### Dealers' Den (*Hucksterata*)

As of this writing we have sold exactly half of our Dealer's Room tables, and we don't expect the rest to last long! If you are a seller of Comics, T-Shirts, Art Prints, Books, and other items of interest to furry fens, get your spot reserved now! Full 8 ft. by 2.5 ft. tables sell for \$50.00, with two full memberships included. Beyond that, additional tables are available for only \$20.00 each. Or, half-tables (4 ft. by 2.5 ft.) are available for \$30.00 each, with one membership included. Contact Rod O'Riley at ConFurence for more info.

Adjacent to the Den of Dealers will be the Artists' Alley, this time in a room of its own. Table spaces will be available free of charge during the day for new artists and craftspeople to show off their talents. But remember: Your space must be reserved each morning of the convention, and reservations are first-come, first-served!



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### Art Show (*Arteesta Sellum*)

If last year was any indication, the ConFurence Three Art Show is going to be bursting at the seams with paintings, sculpture, computer displays, prints and other furry items to dazzle your eyes. Therefore, this year we're requesting that all artists who plan to display 2D, 3D or electronic art at ConFurence Three please register your total number of panel/table spaces with us prior to the convention. Remember, one 4x4 ft. horizontal or vertical space is included free with your paid attending or supporting membership, but if you intend to use the space in your name, we need to know! Again, additional 4x4 ft. spaces are only \$5.00 each, so please let us know how many spaces you'll need, whether it's art to sell or Not-For-Sale display pieces.

Yes, we are accepting mail-in art. We're accepting art you bring yourself. We're accepting art someone else brings for you. But—you need to get the art show registration packet if you will not be attending the show personally. We will be mailing these out to all artists who were in last year's show, as well as any other artists we can think of. If you have not gotten yours, or for any other questions about the art show, please contact John Stanley care of the ConFurence mailing address, or leave a message at (714) 530-1312.

### Costuming (*Custumia Manicolor*)

Once again a prize will be awarded for the best furry-themed costume at the convention, whether it's a hall costume or a presentation at the Costume SIG on Saturday afternoon. All costumes will be photographed and labeled with the costume name. These photos will be displayed at the Saturday Night Spaghetti feed, and those present will vote on the winning costume. If you intend to make a special presentation at the Costume SIG, contact us at the mailing address and let us know of any special lighting or sound requirements you may have.

### FRP Gaming (*Effurpi Gamiata*)

Our FRP Gaming Room will run all night, featuring such favorites as *Albedo*, *GURPS*, *Other Suns*, *TMNT*'s, *Rifts*, *Justifiers*, even *Bunnies & Burrows* if you're so inclined. Contact Shayn Raney at the ConFurence mailing address for more gaming information, or to register as a GM.

### FURiking (*Filkus Thrudenighti*)

ConFurence Three features yet again the ConFurence Furry Filk-Song Contest, for the furry fan with musical leanings. The contest will take place Saturday night, where contestants can sing or read their own composition on a furry theme, or find someone brave to do it for them. The best song is chosen by audience vote. Following the contest, it's circle-singing into the wee hours. Contact Rod O'Riley at the ConFurence address for more information.

## Silicon-based Life (*Compuatus Multipurpus*)

The silicon world will be well-represented at ConFurence Three, both in terms of computer art and animation displays, and in the growing world of modem communications. A new wrinkle on the old bulletin board system concept is *FurryMUCK*, an interactive virtual-reality universe populated and played out in real time by furry characters. Live tie-ins to the *FurryMUCK* will be available for the experienced and the curious.

## Diurnal Fannish Life Cycles

In other words, daily events, including:

### Feeding

Once again we help demolish your diet with free ice-cream for ConFurence members on Friday night, as well as the Saturday Night Spaghetti Feed on (wait for it!) Saturday Night. The Spaghetti Feed is an additional (low) cost, and is limited to strictly 100 people, so make sure and get your reservation ASAP when tickets go on sale Friday!

### Meeting

This year our round-robin fan and pro discussions include topics such as *TaleSpin* (one of the most popular furry TV shows), *FurryMUCK* (and other virtual-reality interactive computer systems), *The Furkindred* (meet the artists and writers!), and ecology (or, furies do the real world). All that and more, plus our familiar Special Interest Groups (SIGs) like FRP Games, Furry Personac, Comics, Computer Art, Computer Networking, and of course our furry Costuming SIG, featuring how-to-ups and costume presentations. If you have a topic you'd like to see discussed, drop us a line!

### Greeting

Each of our special guests will have their own time and space to discuss neat things they're up to lately, as well as tables in the Artist's Alley to sign autographs and chew the fat with the furry folk.

### Seeing

Once again we present our ConFurence Video Theater, showing the best and the most of animation, short films, student projects, and ephemera from around the world. Trust us, we have things here to inspire or offend just about anyone! If you've got ideas, please send a note to Jim Lomax care of the ConFurence address.

## Assistance! (*Helpus Mostneedii*)

### Sponsors

ConFurence survives because people attend it. One of the things which helps assure attendance is our list of guests. And one thing that can help ensure our list of guests is you! We need sponsors to help us with the care and feeding (actually flying and rooming...) of our guests. How can you do this? Just send ConFurence a minimum of \$20.00—up to however much you wish!—over and above your membership fee. Ear-mark (ouch!)

the sponsorship for a particular guest, and we'll apply that contribution toward that person's room and/or travel costs. Or, mark the contribution "general fund" and we'll split it between those who've asked us for help. What do you get for this? Among other things, you get to meet the guests in our private VIP lounge, away from the noise of the crowds. And, a special Sunday-night free sandwich feast is provided for guests and sponsors only. And... we'll see what else we can come up with!

[Martin Wagner, creator and artist of *Hepcats* with whom we had such a blast at ConFurence One, has stated that he would like to join us again but cannot afford to come out to California without help. Hop to it, sponsors!]

### The Souvenir Book

The ConFurence Souvenir Book and Collection has become one of the most popular items at each ConFurence. And we want to do it again with this year with our special convention theme, Our Furry World. That is, furies in legend, folk-tales, books, comic strips, even advertising, from around the globe! And we need your contributions:

**Artwork:** Black & White anthropomorphic art in an 8 1/2 by 11 inch vertical format, on our convention theme or a general furry theme. Also accepting spot-illots. Please send only camera-ready xerox copies (no originals!).

**Articles:** Up to 500 words in length, on any aspect of our convention theme. Furnish you've seen, or heard of, anywhere on earth, or just plain unusual places you've seen the furies or funny animals used. Just remember—give credit to the creators and origin points of any characters you mention!

All printed art or articles will be credited to their creators, and all rights return to those creators. ConFurence retains the right to accept or refuse any contribution, to correct spelling and grammar on articles, and to alter artwork slightly to fit in available space. Our deadline is early January, so don't delay!



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### Volunteers

ConFurence—Where our Gophers are really gophers! We need volunteers to help us with registration, badge-checking, assisting our guests, and moving items to-and-fro. For a minimum of 10 hours work, your membership cost will be returned to you at the end of the convention. So drop us a line if you'd like to help out!

## Until Next Time...

## CONFURENCE THREE- Here, Now, De-Tails:

### WHEN:

Friday, Saturday, Sunday; January 24, 25, 26,  
1992

### WHERE:

Holiday Inn Anaheim- Main Gate  
850 South Harbor Blvd. Anaheim, CA 92802  
\$71.00/night, single or double rooms.

Call (800) 624-6855 or (714) 750-2801  
and be sure to say "ConFurence 3" (CON0123)

### HOW MUCH IT IS:

\$20.00 for full membership until Jan. 1, 1992

\$10.00 for supporting membership, anytime.  
(Gets all mailings and the Souvenir Book)

\$25.00 for full membership  
after 1/1/92 or at-the-door.

\$15.00 1.5-day membership, at-the-door only.

Our Special Offer: \$17.00 full membership for  
previous attending or supporting members!

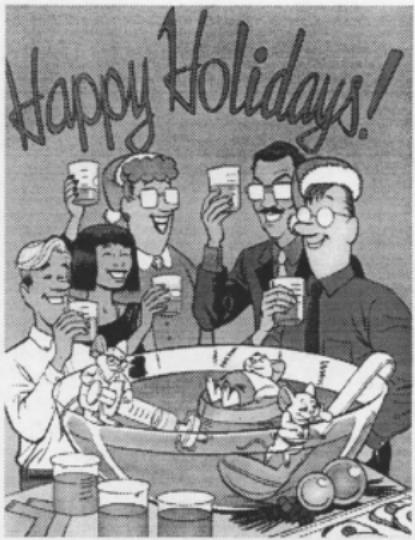
Sponsorship: Minimum \$20.00 contribution  
above your membership.

### WRITE TO:

ConFurence  
P.O. Box 1958  
Garden Grove, CA  
92642-1958

### WHO IS IT?

It's Mark Merlino, Rod O'Riley, John Stanley,  
Shayn Raney, Jazmyn, Larry Adams, Waverly  
Pierre, Henry Brown Jr., and Tom McDaniel.  
So There!



ADVERTISEMENT

## Touch

Adult Fantasy for the Future

There is a new voice in the furry/fantasy magazine market. *Touch*. Romance, intrigue, erotica, fantasy worlds, and much more. Stories and art which appeal to adult emotions and interests, and don't shy away from confronting difficult topics.

Our first issue is now available, with stories of romance by Watts Martin, Jari Winters, and Frank Gembeck; a whirlwind high-tech love story by Pea Glaskowsky; and a playful erotic interlude by Rod O'Riley. All illustrated by some of finest furry and fantasy artists- Frank Gembeck, Terrie Smith, Ken Sample, and Jimmy Chin, plus a cover by Lia Graf and spot art by Lia and Noah Miller.

*Touch* will be published three times a year. To obtain a copy, send \$7.00 in cash, check or money order made out to *ConFurence* or *Mark Merlino* (domestic US only, others write for info) to:

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Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958

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